surveys and limited coring/non-coring boreholes is cheaper and faster for certain formations but it is reported to be of lower reliability, compared to mix of surface surveys aad larger number of boreholes.

(c) to (e) Yes, Sir. Central Mine Planning and Design Institute (CMPDI) has already undertaken introduction of these exploration technologies in India.

Officials sent Abroad for Training

1853. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) how many technical/non-technical Personnel of Ministry of Coal/Corporations Departments therefor were sent abroad for training and visits during the 6th and 7th year Plans and in the years 1991-92, 1992-93 and 1993-94 (as on date) ;

(b) what were the fields of training in each case undergone and details of the type of work done during such visits in each case ;

(c) how many technical personnel were actually posted after training in the job in which they were trained abroad ;

(d) whether it is a fact that some mining Engineers who were trained in Long Wall Faces were also posted for miscellaneous jobs away from work site ; and

(e) if so, the details of each such case and the reasons of such posting ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA) : (a) to (e) Information sought in the Question pertains to past 14 years. Such information is not compiled or maintained centrally. It is felt that the time and effort required to collect and compile the information sought may not be commensurate with the purpose sought to be achieved.

Coking Coal reserves in the country

1854. SHRI S. AUSTIN : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether reserves of prime coking coal in the country have been estimated ; and

(b) the steps being taken to reach new coking coal bearing areas to meet the country's metallurgical demand and to curb imports ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Some of the steps being taken to augment indigenous availability of coking coal, interalia, include :

(i) Increase in raw coking coal availability by reorganising existing mines and development of new mines ;

(ii) Increasing raw coal feed washeries by supplying low volatile medium coking coals of suitable quality ;

(iii) Early commissioning of to new washeries under construction at Madhuband and Kedla for increasing the existing washing capacity ;

(iv) Modification of the existtng coking coal washeries to improve the capacity utilisation as well as the quality of washed coking coal ;

(v) Cooking coal mines in Meghalaya and Assam are being identified to make available increased quantities of low ash coking coal.

Grade-wise production of Coal

1855. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the grade-wise production of coal in the country during the last three years :

(b) how much of this coal is produced in underground mines and open cast mines ;

(c) whether the country has to import superior quality of coal ;